

House File 547 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 547

BY SHIPLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the installation and use of composting
2 toilets.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 455B.171, Code 2019, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. "*Composting toilet*" means a
4 self-contained system consisting of a composter and a separate
5 toilet fixture from which no liquid or solid waste materials
6 are discharged to the surface or subsurface environment and
7 from which a compost-like end product is produced.

8 Sec. 2. Section 455B.172, Code 2019, is amended by adding
9 the following new subsection:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 12. A building may be served by a
11 composting toilet subject to the following conditions:

12 a. Liquid wastewater is not discharged from the composting
13 toilet. If the composting toilet produces a liquid by-product
14 that is not composted through the toilet, the liquid by-product
15 must be disposed of through any of the following methods:

16 (1) Removal and proper disposal by a person licensed to
17 dispose of waste pursuant to subsection 6.

18 (2) Disposal through a method approved by the department.

19 b. The system shall be designed to store compostable and
20 composted solids for at least two years, unless otherwise
21 approved by the department. Residuals from the system shall be
22 disposed of through any of the following methods:

23 (1) By burial on-site or in another manner and location
24 approved by the department, covered with a minimum of six
25 inches of clean, compacted earth, and subject to rules for the
26 land disposal of yard waste adopted by the commission pursuant
27 to section 455D.9.

28 (2) By a person licensed to dispose of waste pursuant to
29 subsection 6.

30 EXPLANATION

31 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
32 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

33 This bill relates to the installation and use of composting
34 toilets. The bill allows a building to be served by a
35 composting toilet provided liquid wastewater is not discharged

1 and the system is capable of storing compostable or composted
2 solids for at least two years. If the system produces liquid
3 by-product, the by-product shall be removed by a person
4 licensed to dispose of such material or by an alternative
5 method approved by the department of natural resources. Solid
6 residuals shall be disposed of either by burying the residuals
7 on-site or in a manner and location approved by the department,
8 or disposed of by a person licensed to dispose of waste.